ISLE OF PINES POST

Published twice a month in the interest of the Isle of Pines, Its Prosperity and Progress

Acogido a la Franquicia Postal e Inscripto como Correspondencia de Segunda Clase en la Oficina de Correos de la Habana

VOL. V, NO. 7 NUEVA GERONA, ISLE OF PINES, APRIL 10, 1931 PRICE, 10 CTS.

VEGETABLE CROP EQUALS LAST YEAR'S ON SMALLER ACREAGE

THOUSANDS OF CRATES LEFT TO ROT IN FIELDS

In spite of the reduction of acreage planted here in vegetables on account of the big increase in duties into the States, the total shipment for this season has equalled that of 1929-1930. The 118,199 figure, which was 30,000 above the ten year average and greater than any other except 1925-1926, which was the only previous season to reach the 100,000 mark, has been equalled or passed by shipments of the present season.

Estimators put the total acreage for last year at 1,300 and this was cut to an estimated total for this year of slightly over 800 acres. This was a direct reflection of the fear of the result of the increased tariff rates imposed last summer. Fortunately few planted peppers or eggplant in large quantities as these proved a total loss for the early crop and of but little value later. Markets were seldom high enough to pay for packing, shipping and duty.

However the volume of fertilizer sales was practically the same as last year and the production per acre was correspondingly higher giving a total equal or greater. Some attribute the greater yield

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BEACH ASSOCIATION HOLDS FIRST MEETING

The first meeting of the Legion Beach Association was held at the camp at Vivijagua Beach at 3 p. m. Sunday, April 12 as previously announced. Nearly half of the members were present and took part in the meeting.

Robert D. Mills read the financial report showing 64 paid members for 1930-1931 up to the date of the meeting. These, at $7 each ($5 membership and $2 dues to June 1, 1931), paid in a total of $448. Total costs to date have been $715.57. This leaves a total of $267.57 advanced from the funds of Isle of Pines Post of the American Legion.

These costs were for lease, clearing, hauling and digging well. $138.00
Building materials, labor, fencing, etc. 577.57

Judge Barnes moved that a committee of five be appointed as a membership committee and this was carried. Commodore Lewis moved that the Legion Post continue to administer the affairs of the camp as trustee owners. Also carried. A motion calling for a picnic by

(Continued on page 2)

BASKING IN ISLE BEAUTY

Reverend Doctor Frederick E. Oberlander, of St. John Lutheran Church, New York City, and his brother, Charles Oberlander, of Buffalo and the Isle, whom he visited in March. View from lawn of San José Hotel across the Park.

Easter services on the Isle well attended
Special music and services held everywhere

PASTOR HARTMAN ESPECIALLY ACTIVE

Easter Sunday, as is customary here, was celebrated throughout the Isle with special services in all the churches. Good Friday and the Holy Week observances were also well attended as was the Catholic Mission given by visiting missionary Priests.

The Lutheran services at the Women's Economic Club building in Santa Barbara almost filled the large auditorium which had been beautifully decorated by Jacob Werner, A. C. Kopf and August Braese. The main part of the hall was converted into a vaulted chapel with palm and bamboo fronds formed into arches. The altar background was similarly covered and a large cross of white snapdragons stood against it.

The quartette composed of Arthur Waterton, Len Davies, Pastor Hartman and August Brease rendered Handel's "Largo," "Christ Our Passover" and "He is Risen," by Nevin, and "Hallelujah! Jesus Lives." They were accompanied by Miss Elizabeth Kopf, piano, with Oscar and Gunnar Sundstrom, violins.

Pastor Hartman delivered a moving sermon on "A Christian's Confession Before the Empty Tomb of Jesus."

(Continued on page 3)

RAILWAY ENGINEER REBUILDING DIVISION

The Southwestern Division of the S. B. & L. I. Line is being entirely relocated and rebuilt by construction chief Lars Hedin under the direction of L. L. Wolf whose long engineering experience with the Canadian Pacific qualifies him eminently for such a large undertaking.

The right-of-way has been completely relocated, all gradients eliminated or greatly reduced, the mountain pass over the divide double-tracked and a number of new bridges built. One of these is of native stone and Engineer Wolf has calculated that any of them are capable of standing the pounding of the big "hogs" up to three hundreds tons. The new line makes connection, as formerly, at Hahnel's grove junction, with the main line south from Santa Barbara. The run from that point, via Johnson City, Hedinville and Wolftown to the coast at Port Los Indios, has but two curves and the road-bed is one of the solidest on the Isle.

The matters of through or tank watering, block or handset signals, sidings, etc., have been left for determination after the completion of the mainline but it is clear

(Continued on page 4)

BEACH ASSOCIATION. . . .

(Continued from page 1)

the Association at the Camp on July 4th was carried with a committee of five to be appointed with power to act on arrangements. Prices, 50 cents for grown-ups and 25 cents for school age children.

James A. Saxe and Denman Vaughan were admitted to membership and it was requested that the list of members and minutes of meeting be published in the Isle of Pines Post.

Members in good standing to June 1st, 1931:

Norman Nelson, Frank Nelson, W. H. Brown, Frederick Jacobs, Frank Cooper, W. J. Mills, J. A. Miller, James Miller, F. S. Hervey (deseased), R. B. Heeren, H. P. MacCarthy, A. L. Shaffrank, J. A. Saxe, Robt I. Wall, A. B. Kelm, A. C. Kopf, A. J. Bell, Tom Nurse, W. F. Pack, T. W. Lewis, Herman Arbeit, R. C. Sanborn, Tom Howard, W. D. Middleton, Louis Feeger, Walter Anderson, Louis Ulrich, E. J. Pearcy, R. D. Mills, Wm. Howard, Fred Lehrner, C. B. Barnes, Oscar Sundstrom, P. Christensen, Geo. D. Roberts, Henry Diller, Peter Johnson, R. G. Rice, F. L. Swetland, N. K. Wiley, R. H. Jardine, L. C. Giltner, A. E. Waterton, Oscar Larson, A. A. Ladd, Len Davies, G. L. Hoyt, A. E. Sundstrom, J. B. Leffingwell, Fred Bauer, Mark Sandwisch, John Miller, Wm. French, W. E. Birch, S. G. Day, Steve Sterk, Charles Heck, Jacob Werner, Tom Anderson, E. L. Lory, R. B. Hahnel, Allan Smith, G. Sundstrom, F. Houghtalin, Mrs. B. Fenkell, Harry Kelton, Jacob Frueh, D. Vaughan.

The memberships listed herein include members of the holder's immediate family, except grown sons, and are extensive to bonafide house guests who are not residents of the Isle.

It will be the effort of the Association to obtain at least a hundred members during the rest of this year and thus pay off the remainder of the building cost as well as provide funds for the completion of a small golf course and other needed conveniences such as showers.

A new diving platform has been built out in deep water and this was greatly enjoyed by the swimmers who took to the water after the meeting Sunday.

♣ ♣ ♣

ORMAN YOKOM, veteran of San Juan Hill with Governor Pack and later, like the Governor, in the Philippines for many years, is now an old-timer on the Isle also. He resigned his position with the Steamship Company, effective April 1st, to accept employment as grove foreman for the Swetland grove properties at San Francisco Heights. He has rented Tom Upton's marble house across the river from Nueva Gerona and is now living there.

♣ ♣ ♣

JOHN KOTTWICK, for several years an invalid due to an injury to his back, is now out again and on the job with the Steamship Company in charge of the dock at night. To see John about again after so many years and such a hard fight has been a real pleasure to all of his friends who wish him rapid and complete recovery.

♣ ♣ ♣

HENRY EGGLESTON, who has been farming for several years in the Columbia section, has some very interesting plantings started just at the south edge of Nueva Gerona. From seedling strawberry beds he has developed several very promising varieties and he has been competing with J. C. McPherson recently in the supplying of the local market with the principal shortcake ingredient. He also has blackberry, fig and grape plantings which are looking highly prosperous.

♣ ♣ ♣

VALENTINE CEREZA, the Spanish tailor, has moved to the West Indies building where he is installed for business.

♣ ♣ ♣

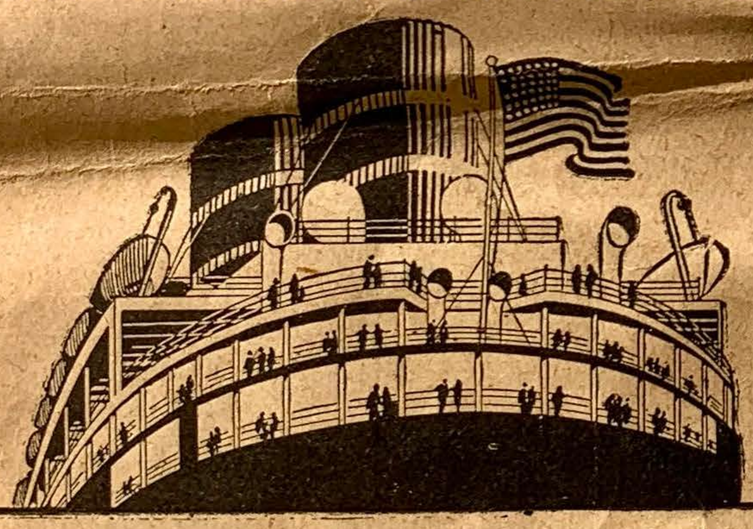
The N. K. WILEYS have succumbed to the Baby Golf epidemic and have put in a snappy little course at the Fairview Farms, near McKinley.

♣ ♣ ♣

S. H. LINNEROOTH, of St. Paul, Minn., inspected the Presidio on March 27th. He said that he and most other Minnesotans were convinced that their State prison was the world's finest but that after seeing the marvelous establishment here he realized that this is twenty or fifty years ahead of anything so far attempted in the States.

♣ ♣ ♣

LUIS SERRANO, director of the Agricultural Experiment Sub-station at Isabela, Porto Rico, arrived March 27th for a study of the Isle's methods of cucumber production which is far ahead of anything they have there. In spite of a cost of only fifty cents for crate and freight to New York he said that there was only one grower in Porto Rico who did well this year on cukes.



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MORAL?

The other day a distinguished Pinero handed us a typed version of the fatiguing fable of the hen who scratches harder when worms are scarce (a "trade publication" is one which publishes this story in one form or another about four times a year) with the suggestion that it might encourage industriousness or something.

The heading was, "There's a Moral Here," so we started scratching for it.

In the first place it is clear that the fellow who learned this great moral lesson from the hen was not emulating her industry or he would never have had time to watch her busy actions. This shows us that a comfortable position under a palm tree may lead to great wisdom. That is if does not happen to be a coco palm in which case it may lead to concussion instead of sage cogitation.

It does seem that it would be fine to have our hens and bees aware of this great lesson but most of them seem to be doing pretty well as it is and no thoughtful person has yet shown us how to improve on their education. We have known of hens that wore their toes off scratching in gravel and rocks where no worm ever ventured. Although we fed them well they spent all their energies scratching and never had enough left to lay any eggs so we penned them up in small pens with board floors and no room to scratch where they soon got fat and laid eggs almost every day.

The tale asks if we ever saw a pessimistic hen and only one case comes to mind. That was the neglected harem of a fat and oldish rooster who was no longer interested in anything but worms.

It asks if we ever heard of a hen starving to death waiting for worms to dig themselves out of the ground and we never did; but, we have known them to work themselves to death trying to find them where they weren't; and we have known them to starve to death setting optimistically on a doorknob; and we have known them to show their industry by laying so many eggs that the price went down to where you couldn't trade an egg without giving something to boot.

This must be the moral: Keep sqwawking until they throw something into the yard; keep watching the kitchen door and get there first if it's food: beat it if someone comes out toward the woodpile for the axe; and don't get in the kitchen or mess up the floor until the frying and boiling ages are past. If this does not suit, pick your own morals, folks.

♣ ♣ ♣

MRS. WILL H. BROWN was hostess to a card party for the P. T. A. benefit on April 25 in the Brown hacienda, Santa Teresa, at McKinley. Mrs. Jacob Werner and Mrs. N. K. Wiley assisted her in the entertainment of one of the most successful of these entertainments given this season.

Bridge prizes were won by Mesdames Henrietta Anderson and Ed. J. Pearcy. Mrs. Elizabeth Schaffler won the five hundred prize and Misses Elizabeth Kopf and Lucy Roberts won the brainteaser awards.

The gentlemen enjoyed a tour of the Santa Teresa groves with Mr. Brown More than $25 were realized for the P. T. A. funds.

PASTOR HARTMAN....

(Continued from page 1)

After services in McKinley, Palm Grove and Nueva Gerona Pastor Hartmann, accompanied by A. C. Kopf and others, left for the south coast where he held services and gave confirmation and communion on the following day.

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VEGETABLE CROP....

(Continued from page 1)

per acre to better rainfall and growing conditions and others attribute it to the excellent seed. Approximately three-fourths of the total acreage was planted with seed supplied by the Kilgore company which proved exceptionally fine as compared to other plantings and other seasons. The smaller acreage also gave the growers a chance to attend more thoroughly to cultivation and pest control and demonstrated that intensive care is more profitable.

As the bulk of the movement was made up of cucumbers and this was the only planting marketed with any profit, the cucumber acreage had to carry the other plantings. Under this handicap and the payment of about $140,000 to the U. S. Government in duties, the grower who did more than make wages against the low markets resulting from reduced purchasing power, was fortunate.

The thing which pulled the crop through without a disastrous loss was the fact that all of the cucumbers consumed in the United States during the winter came from here except trifling amounts. In spite of this prices were much lower than last year without the duty. As the Florida cuke movement usually begins in mid-March no plantings were made here to last longer than that and when it was found that Florida would have no supply until late in April it was too late to do anything about it here so the markets are bare for late March and April with prices for occasional boxes around fifteen dollars. Tariff "protection" for Florida was a painful flop: what she needs is protection against the different kinds of northern wind, hot as well as cold.

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FRUITS and VEGETABLES
ALWAYS DEPENDABLE FORWARDING SERVICE
TELEPHONE 62

RAILWAY ENGINEER....

(Continued from page 1)

that the passengers to Port Los Indios, Siguanea and points south are going to be able to count on safer, smoother transportation and much faster schedules from now on.

These Los Indios folks have also gotten together in another way and built a coast resort on the beach at La Playa Roja. Considering how few they are in numbers we are tempted to say that when it comes to getting things done and done well, numbers mean little.

♣ ♣ ♣

The Nelsons have put in new concrete bridges along the road to the beach at Vivijagua as well as helped the few other residents in that neighborhood to put the whole stretch from the Columbia Calzada in good shape. For this all members of the Beach Association owe these good neighbors especial thanks and perhaps something more.

HORTON–COOPER WEDDING HELD IN MIAMI, FLORIDA

Miss Dorothy Horton, of Santa Fé, and Mr. Frank Cooper, of Columbia, were married in Miami the last of March and returned to live in the Cooper home at Columbia on April 7th.

They are two of the best liked young people on the Isle and have the very best wishes of everyone here for a happy and prosperous future among us.

♣ ♣ ♣

In the latter part of March MR. GEORGE VEAUX, of Elmira, New York, visited the Isle and became interested in the fine property of Tom Upton overlooking the Casas River opposite Nueva Gerona. He expects to locate here on retirement as a conductor on the Lackawanna.

♣ ♣ ♣

MR. AND MRS. ALBERT R. McCOY arrived March 26 for a visit of several weeks with their daughter and Mr. Gardner. Mr. Gardner who had recently undergone an operation is now well over it although he suffered a spell of illness after returning home.

♣ ♣ ♣

KARL W. BOWERS, of Boston, was here for several days, arriving on April 4. He is a telephone engineer and another legionnaire who found the Isle a wonderful place for rest and recreation, expressing the wish that he had found it sooner so he could have gotten more enjoyment out of a brief vacation.

CHURCH DIRECTORY

Lutheran:

First Sunday of each month services at Jacksonville on south coast at 2 P. M. All other Sundays: Santa Barbara at 10 A. M.; Nueva Gerona at 2 P. M.; Palm Grove at 3:30 P. M. and McKinley at 7 P. M.

Union Church:

Preaching Service at Santa Fé at 9:15 every Sunday morning and at Nueva Gerona at 11:15 on the same days. Sunday School at Santa Fé at 10:30 and at Nueva Gerona at 10:15. Service in Spanish at 7:30 P. M. Sundays and Wednesdays at Nueva Gerona. Thursdays at Santa Fé at the same hour.

Catholic:

Church of Our Lady of Sorrows, Nueva Gerona: Mass every day at 6:00 A. M. Rosary and Benediction every day at 7:00 P. M. High Mass at 9:00 A. M. on Sundays.

Santa Fe: Mass at Church, Sundays at 8:00 A. M. and every day at the Quinta at 7:00 A. M.

Santa Barbara: Mass every other Sunday at 10:30 A. M.

Adventist:

Sabbath School every Saturday at 9:45 A. M. Preaching Service at 11:00 A. M. Prayer Meeting at 7:45 P. M. every Wednesday. These hours apply to Chapel at Santa Bárbara and at the former Goodrich home in Nueva Gerona.

SANTA FÉ LODGE, F. & A. M.

Meets 8 p. m. first Friday of each month at its lodge rooms in Nueva Gerona. Attendance of all members is urgently requested. Tom Howard, W. M.

SANTA FÉ CHAPTER NO. 2, R. A. M.

Meets 8 p. m. third Friday of each month in Nueva Gerona. All Companions are requested to attend. Walter Anderson, High Priest.

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CITRUS FIELD MAN FROM FLA. GETS EYEFUL ON THE ISLE

Mr. Earl McBride, grove owner of the Dundee section near Winter Haven and for many years field expert for citrus in that section, arrived on the Isle April 7 for a stay of several days and a study of local growing and fertilization problems. He was accompanied by Mr. Antonio Lonja, distributor for Cuba of the A.A.C. brands of fertilizer and fertilizer ingredients.

Cuba, Isle of Pines and Puerto Rico have recently beed added to Mr. McBride's territory for counsel to growers and study of crop conditions. He prepared the material for the excellent, beautifully printed and bound book on citrus growing which has recently been issued by his company and which most growers here have already received.

After a thorough inspection of all sections of the Isle Mr. McBride stated that he was surprised at the fine production and rapid growth of young groves, especially that of W. D. Middleton at Tumbita. He ranked the groves under the care of A. C. Kopf and Howard Brothers as much the best he saw. Advised the general use of Crotalaria as a cover crop in all groves; greatly reduced cultivation; less inside pruning and cutting off of lower limbs; found many root systems ruined by disking or ploughing and also by too heavy application of fertilizer at one time.

The pest control problem seems to be very similar to that in Florida although a few of the Florida pests are not so bad here and some of those here are slightly different. He believes that rigid enforcement of the much more rigid green fruit laws will give us more time to market our crop which we should bring to the highest degree of maturity possible before shipment.

♣ ♣ ♣

HENRY P. FRITOT, big crate man from Habana, arrived March 28th for a visit of several days with local customers.

♣ ♣ ♣

The "PINERO" has gone to Habana for her annual overhaul in preparation for the trying fruit season which is now just around the corner. She carried a large cargo of mine props from the Isle for the Santa Lucía mines in western Cuba. The "Cuba" is taking the run of the "Pinero" while she is away for repairs.

♣ ♣ ♣

A. G. CAMPBELL flew to Habana March 27th in connection with arrangements for the new airport at Santa Fé.

♣ ♣ ♣

DR. P. M. LEWIS of Orlando flew to the aid of his friend Mr. Tom Carter, principal of the American Central School here. He performed a delicate sinus operation, with the assistance of Dr. J. M. Llorca, on the morning of his arrival and returned by plane the same afternoon. Mr. Carter has recovered rapidly and now enjoys relief from the serious condition he suffered for several months and which had rapidly become unbearable.

TAMPA–ISLE–CAYMAN SHIP LINE IS FORMED

According to the Tampa Tribune of March 31 a company known as the Cayman Islands and Gulf Motor Boat Company, Limited, has been formed at Georgetown, Grand Cayman, to operate a 30 passenger motorship between Tampa, Isle of Pines and Cayman and connect with the line to Jamaica.

This Company is now building a ship to take the place of M. S. Noca which has been making this run for several years. The new ship will be more than a hundred tons capacity, about a hundred feet long and with a third greater beam than the Noca. She is being built at Georgetown, Grand Cayman, where some of the sturdiest and most seaworthy small ships on the Caribbean have been turned out.

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BELIEVE IT OR NOT RIPLEY IS COMING HERE

In a newsy friendly letter from "Doc" Harry J. Kelton written aboard the Piroscafo "Roma" (Wop for Steamship Rome) nearing Gib, the great Pinero and Wingfooter tells us of plans for a trip here with his good friend Robert L. Ripley, creator of the King Service "Believe It Or Not" feature. Their picture appears on this page and we hope to welcome both of them in person this coming fall. You will all recognize "Doc" who wouldn't have to wear the benny nor keep his hands in his pockets if he had come home this winter instead of traipsing around Africa, Turkey and such foreign parts. Ripley is the right bower in the subdivision sox.

They had planned to get here this April and General Herrera of the Cuban Army who is a good friend of "Doc's' had planned an air meet on the Isle during their visit. The trip to darkest Africa intervened and they will not get to Treasure Isle until later. Doc says Ripley is anxious to see the Isle where we can show him some unbelievable facts but from his anxious inquiries about Tom Upton's health it would seem that they are interested in verifying that wine list Tom published in recent issues of the Post. He sends regards to all friends here and says he would rather be at one of Tom's mahogany tables with a bunch of them watching the sun set behind the bougainvilleas in the patio than anywhere he can think of. He will think of that clean, cool spot more than once before he gets through with the Sahara and Turkey.

♣ ♣ ♣

MR. AND MRS. D. A. BUNKER, of Seoul, Korea, arrived April 1 for a visit with Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Hill. Mr. Hill and Mr. Bunker were boyhood chums and schoolmates. In 1886 the King of Korea asked the United States Government for two or three men to teach English and assist in the modernization of the Korean school system. Mr. Bunker was one of those sent by the President and he has been a resident of that country ever since although he now has a home in California. Mrs. Bunker was a missionary in that country and so they met and were married many years ago.

Their visit was for about two weeks.

♣ ♣ ♣

MRS. GEORGE WILKINSON and daughter MAX arrived April 2nd from Havana where they have been living for more than a year. Both were in the best of health. They came to take care of matters relating to the Wilkinson property at Santa Barbara.

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Other FIRST CLASS lines of Grove, Farm and Home supplies at right prices
HOYT AGENCIES
SUCCESOSR TO THE LATE FRANK S. HERVEY

MIXING FRUIT BAD SHIPPERS WARNED

A short time ago a visitor on the Isle who has grove here shipped several boxes of his grapefruit to friends in New York but put a few guayabas in each crate. These were promptly found and destroyed by the customs inspector at New York who wrote as follows to the shipping agent:

F. Opolinsky & Son, Inc.
350 Washington St.
New York, N. Y.

Gentlemen:

Your attention is directed to Customs Entry 843637, which applies to a shipment of miscellaneous fruits and vegetables, which arrived consigned to you on the S. S. Pastores March 15. Among other items, there were 10 crates of grapefruit. These 10 crates were found to contain in addition to grapefruit, oranges, cucumbers and certain prohibited products including guavas and fruit of the Carambola tree.

Assuming that the prohibited material was shipped without your knowledge or consent, we permitted entry of the grapefruit after the prohibited products had been removed and destroyed. However, I feel compelled to advise you that such shipments are a flagrant violation of the Plant Quarantine Act and that in the future the inclusion of prohibited products with permitted products will be considered grounds for the rejection of each and every package found to contain prohibited material, in any quantity. It would, therefore, seem advisable for you to caution your shippers in Cuba in order to avoid future difficulties.

Very truly yours,

WM. H. FREEMAN
Inspector in Charge

It had been many years since such a thing had happened to an Isle of Pines shipment and it is quite certain to result in greatly increased vigilance by the inspectors with possible penalties against violators. This was a lot handled by Opolinsky & Son purely as a matter of accommodation to the shipper and shows why these small shipments are so dreaded by the forwarders.

SCHOOL BEAUTIFICATION NOW HAS BEEN STARTED

With the planting of rows of the fast growing Australian pines, royal palms and other attractive trees and shrubs the American Central School is, at last, under way. Ivy of the kind now covering the walls of the beautiful Swetland packing-house and the Sister's Academy in Nueva Gerona will be planted along the walls and Mr. Albert Swetland has promised to do the landscaping work when he returns next fall.

Gargiulo and Améndola, New York commission receivers and large factors in the marketing of the Isle's fruit and vegetable crops, have at last become interested in our school here. Mr. Silvio Gargiulo on his last visit pledged his firm to a contribution of ten dollars per month to the fund. Dr. F. W. Devitt of Deep River, Connecticut, always deeply interested in the Isle and its welfare, has sent in his check for $25 for this fund as has Mr. James A Saxe of here and there. Another friend who has promised support is Mr. Pierpont of the Pierpont Manufacturing Company of Miami, who also promised the School some assistance.

Mr. Harry F. Barnes, of Santa Barbara and New Jersey is giving five dollars per month during his stay here and we expect him to be a permanent winter resident in the future. More and more of those who have interests here are taking steps to protect and improve those interests by aiding our educational system in English. As the number increases we may hope for a more equitable spreading of the load among those who are real beneficiaries of the results.

♣ ♣ ♣

MR. AND MRS CLAUDE L. McKESSON, of San Francisco, were delighted visitors to the Isle and Presidio on April 3. Mr. McKesson is Director of Engineering and Research for the American Bitumuls Company which extracts Asphaltum from petroleum and emulsifies it for application to roads and floors. He is on an extensive lecture tour to acquaint road officials and other interested in such work with modern roadmaking methods and he is also a legionnaire.

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STORY OF THE ISLE OF PINES

(Continued from last issue)

After the tobacco plan was forced out by refusal of U. S. customs authorities to admit Isle tobacco duty free the colonists turned to grapefruit and oranges as a basis of agricultural development. Many thousands of acres were planted but most of this was abandoned before it came to bearing age or shortly after. Marketing problems which had not yet been solved made the bearing groves unprofitable and more were abandoned while the growers turned to winter vegetables, pineapples and products.

Throughout this period many new settlers were coming in and much land was sold but without a stabilized production and marketing system profits were scarce and most of these pioneers who were in the case of having to make a living had to give up and go away.

Then came a more satisfactory adjustment under which good growers with good groves were able to get by in a sort of way and some of the abandoned groves were taken over and brought back into production. At this time it was customary to ship fruit to the States throughout the winter in direct competition with Florida's grapefruit whose increasing production kept the markets glutted and made profitable prices practically impossible. An American wage scale had prevailed for native labor since the early days when it was much in demand for clearing and planting lands for northern buyers. Materials of all kinds and practically every need of the colony came from the States paying duty on entry into Cuba. Knowledge of citrus growing was slight and home made. Costs were very high as compared to those of Florida.

Finally it was realized that only the August and September shipments could hope for a profitable price and grove practice was bent to the obtaining of early bloom and maturity. Some similar changes took place in the production of winter vegetables with some new lines being taken up while others were abandoned for one reason or another. By 1920 the Isle's production had grown to about 200,000 crates per year, total, with three-fourths of this in grapefruit.

In the next six years this jumped to almost 400,000 crates for 1925-1926 season, the year before the storm. In this year the vegetable production was double that of the year before and brought several losses.

The following year this vegetable acreage went back to about seventy-five thousand boxes and grapefruit reached its highest peak of 270,000 boxes although a part of the crop had not yet beenshipped when the hurricane of October stripped the remaining fruit from the trees and did a great deal of damage to the trees themselves.

Many growers gave up in despair when they saw the injury to their groves and believed that they could not be saved or would not be worth saving. Hundreds of acres were abandoned and much of this was later destroyed by grass fires.

Although more vegetables were planted the following year the total shipment of citrus and vegetables fell below that of 1920. Grapefruit went just over 100,000 boxes and vegetables reached nearly 90,000 crates.

Since that time the grapefruit production has jumped each year and present

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indications are that the crop of 1931-1932 will equal or pass that of 1926-1927. Vegetable shipments have shown an increase each year to a high total of 120,000 crates in 1929-1930. The 1930-1931 crop was cut sharply in view of the U. S. Tariff increase to three cents per pound. The inability of any other section to raise cucumbers, except in hot-houses, made a good market for those of the Isle throughout the winter and the few peppers and eggplants still growing late in the season also showed some value but not enough to cover the cost of production on the crop for the season. The total movement was more than 100,000 crates of vegetables; 230,000 boxes of grapefruit had been shipped to March 1 with a considerable amount being held for later market.

(To be continued)

MRS. FLORENCE KEIM, of Havana, visited her parents, Mr. and Mrs. L. L. Wolf, of Los Indios, during the first week in April. Neil and Gwen Davies, of Santa Barbara, were also weekend guests at the Worf home from Friday over Sunday.

♣ ♣ ♣

MR. PAUL REUHL, of Santa Barbara, who has demonstrated his musicianship ably, would be glad to have several piano pupils for the summer. He will gladly get in touch with anyone who is interested if they will leave word at the office of the Isle of Pines Post.

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